

ATTACHMENT A

The most significant problems and issues identified by the MAXIMUS review include:

- some counties did not claim administrative costs for IV-E eligible children who received SSI benefits, were in un-reimbursable placements, or had not yet obtained reasonable efforts court language. Even though the administrative costs could have been claimed manually, the Milwaukee computer system (SCRIPTS) and the State computer (HSRS) were not set up to identify such cases;
- Milwaukee County incurred a significant loss in claiming because the computer system dropped the eligibility of previously claimed cases;
- over twelve (12) counties had a significant number of children who were correctly determined as IV-E eligible and reimbursable, but for some reason, the costs for these children some counties made incorrect IV-E determinations, including incorrectly determining the AFDC relatedness of a child by:
 - not exempting SSI income and including the SSI recipients in the household size; and
 - not determining a SSI child in an AFDC household as meeting the AFDC eligible requirement.
- seven (7) counties are not able to claim placement costs for the first several months of placement because the temporary custody orders do not include the IV-E required court language;
- some counties claim less IV-E costs because court orders are signed days, or weeks, after the hearing date. This can be solved by including legal reference to the date of the hearing;
- some counties incorrectly report costs into CARS profile 0301, the social services cost pool; and
- the State did not, prior to the recent implementation of CARS profile 0321 and 0322, claim IV-E and Medicaid eligibility determinations costs at the enhanced reimbursement rate.

Resolving these and other more detailed problems are critical to the success of the IV-E Incentive Proposal and assuring that the State receives all eligible federal reimbursement. Toward that end, the Department is:

- urging all counties to address the IV-E eligibility and cost reporting issues identified in this memorandum to assure maximum federal claiming of eligible costs;
- revising the Human Services Reporting System (HSRS) to allow for automated claiming of administrative costs for cases which are eligible, but not reimbursable;
- assuring that Milwaukee County will be able to claim eligible, but not reimbursable cases;
- revising the State's IV-E claiming procedure manual to incorporate several changes, primarily as a result of recent U.S. Department of Health and Human Services rulings;
- providing a series of one day training sessions throughout the state which will cover revised IV -E eligibility procedures;
- providing technical assistance to counties on CARS reporting, and
- providing follow-up training on on-site technical assistance to counties to assure full implementation of the revised procedures.